

RICC Meeting
5/17/07
12:00 noon



"The purpose of the RICC is to ensure partnership of parents and regional representatives dedicated to supporting children with, or at risk of, a disability from birth to age 3, and their families."

Present were: Betty Omvig, Tim Coughlin, Cindy Gardner, Darlas Rogers, Jaret Cvancara, Angie Dubovoy, Cheryl Saeman, Harlan Fixen, Tracy Murray, and Samantha Oyloe.

Minutes of the last RICC meeting and agenda for this meeting were handed out.

Introductions were done.

Rose Shafer was not present at the meeting to report on Right Track, nor was there a report done on the Fort Berthold Child.

Tracy Murray announced that she would be resigning from her position as the Experienced Parent for Region 1, as she is moving to Colorado with her family. She stated she would be here until about the end of July. Some of her duties she performed as an Experienced Parent was attending the RICC meetings, reviewing case files and surveys, and was also involved in polycom conferences with the State office. She also mentioned the surveys regarding Infant Development were being sent out.

The TISA Healthy Start Program reported they have approximately 120 clients all together between prenatals and post partum's. TISA Healthy Start provides services to six counties. These counties include: McKenzie, Divide, and Williams in North Dakota and Richland, Roosevelt, and Sheridan in Montana. They stated the purpose of their program was to educate prenatals in order to decrease the risk of infant mortality in Native American babies: which is 2-3 times higher than whites and to also promote full term pregnancies. They start by informing the prenatals of what they should and shouldn't be doing during their pregnancy. TISA will then educate a post-partum until the child is 2+years. Cindy and Darlas explained that any Native American can receive free services from this Program as long as they are direct services or while a mother is carrying a Native American child, They do not have to be enrolled in a certain tribe to receive these services. Darlas stated she will be attending her first infant mortality review in South Dakota, where infant mortality is very high on those reservations. TISA also reported they are getting one more chair for their Dental Program.

Betty discussed the purpose for the RICC has remained the same for the most part, however there has been a recent update regarding a new additional item. She mentioned she would make copies of the committee's purpose and responsibilities and hand them out at the next quarterly meeting.

Angie Dubovoy of Protection and Advocacy briefly discussed her duties. She stated the purpose of this program was to advocate for, and protect the legal rights of all ages who have disabilities. They help educate individuals/families on disability-related issues. They can also report incidents of neglect and abuse on individuals with disabilities, etc...

The New Quality Improvement Plan was briefly discussed. Betty indicated there would be statistics regarding the Plan at the next RICC meeting and would be discussed in more detail.

Brochures were passed out regarding the Family Connection Conference 2007, which takes place June 14th, 15th, and 16th in Fargo, North Dakota.

RICC Meeting Agenda for the remainder of 2007 is as follows: August 16, 2007 and November 15, 2007.

Meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.